
GUMC Clashgour hut

Manual



Contact:

Clashgour hut custodian: clashgourhut@gmail.com

Hut Custodian, Glasgow University Mountaineering Club,
Stevenson Building,
77 Oakfield Avenue,
Glasgow, G12 8LT

Location

Clashgour hut can be found 5 miles from the A82 at Bridge of Orchy, past the Inveroran Hotel and 1 mile west of Forest Lodge. OS Grid Reference: NN 256 425

Situated beneath Stob Ghabhar at the southern end of the Blackmount Estate. The Glen Kinglass and Bridge of Orchy hills are accessible by foot and it is near to the West Highland Way. Glencoe is only 30 minutes away by car from Victoria Bridge. The corries of Stob Ghabhar and Beinn an Dothaidh can offer Winter climbing of all standards. There are some superb swimming pools upstream of the hut, and it is also handy for several rough cycling routes. The nearest pint may be had at the Inveroran Hotel (may sometimes be closed in winter), some 40 minutes walk from the hut. The nearest shops are at Tyndrum, 6 miles south of Bridge of Orchy.

Access

Reaching the hut is a lot easier than may be expected, with good bus and rail links to Bridge of Orchy, and parking at the Victoria Bridge car park, only a 20 minute walk from the hut.

Strictly NO CARS are allowed along the track to the hut.



Facilities

- Sleeps a maximum of 10 people (depending on your definition of comfort).
- Gas lighting.
- Cooking facilities: There are 3 large gas hobs, a large range of pots, as well as crockery and cutlery.
- Large multi-fuel stove. When staying it's advised to take your own coal or wood with you.
- There is no toilet or running water at the hut. There are large containers for water, which can be collected from the river that runs by the hut.

Booking Details

Clashgour hut must be booked in advance by contacting the hut custodian. The fees for non-members of the club are £3.00 per person, per night. Keys are sent out about a week prior to the booking. Please return the keys promptly after your trip to ensure they are available for other users. Payment should be sent when returning the keys, with cheques made payable to 'GUMC Clashgour Account'. Internet banking transfer is also possible (ask the hut custodian for details).

Rules of the hut

- 1 No Cars.** No vehicles may be taken along the track to the hut; they must be left at the Victoria Bridge car park. This rule includes your arrival and departure, no matter how tired you are, weather etc. Those failing to obey this will be banned from future use of the hut and if you do drive down the track you may find that your car becomes locked in.
 - 2 Respect the surroundings.** Do not cut any live wood from around the hut. Fishing is not allowed without permission from the estate.
 - 3 Disconnect the gas.** When the gas is not in use could you please disconnect the cylinders to prevent the gas leaking. This is particularly important when you leave.
 - 4 Security.** Despite the remote location of the hut it still suffers occasionally from vandalism. It is important that when you leave the hut you replace the window shutters and bolt them securely. Also check that the padlocks are replaced.
 - 5 Tidy the hut and surroundings after use.** Please sweep both floors, clean all surfaces and clear ashes from the stove before you leave. Do not leave any food in the hut as this attracts mice that are able to eat through most types of packaging. Please take all rubbish away with you.
 - 6 Report any problems to the hut custodian.** If a gas cylinder runs out, a gas mantle breaks, or you find anything else broken or not working please report this to the hut custodian as soon as possible so the hut can be maintained in good order.
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Arrival at the hut

On arrival at the hut you should find it locked, with large white shutters covering the windows. The front shutter should be unlocked and stored in the porch. The rear shutter needs to be unlocked from inside the hut, by opening the window from the inside and undoing the tower bolts on the back of the shutter.



Store both shutters in the porch to prevent damage.



Connecting gas cylinder

The gas should be disconnected when you arrive at the hut and you will need to connect up regulator before using the hobs or lights.



To connect the regulator; place it on the gas cylinder, lift the red clip, and turn the black knob clockwise. When the red clip points upwards, the regulator is connected and the gas is on.

Gas taps

The gas is easily controlled with lab style gas taps when staying at the hut. All gas taps should be turned off when leaving the hut.



Gas lights

DO NOT touch gas mantles! The mantles of the lights are extremely fragile and will break apart if touched, or poked with matches.

Using gas lights :

- Turn on gas tap to lights.
- Have a match or lighter to hand (extra long matches are best). Turn gas knob (basically your light switch) on the light itself, while holding a lit match bellow the mantle.
- Allow time for the gas to flow to the light, it may take a moment or two to light.
- If it still won't light, close the air inlet hole at the top of the light (like a school bunsen burner, if your memory stretches back that far) and try again.
- Make sure you re-open the air inlet hole once the light is lit, it will get extremely hot after a while.



LIGHTS WILL GET EXTREMELY HOT WHEN LIT
DO NOT TOUCH!!!

Stove



- The stove is a conventional multi-fuel stove which burns wood and coal.
 - You're advised to bring your own fuel with you to the hut. We can't guarantee that there'll be fuel at the hut.
 - BBQ briquettes are not the same as coal, be sure not to mistake the two. You will have a much warmer stay if you bring coal.
 - Always use the fire guard when using the stove with the doors open to prevent stray embers creating a fire hazard (unlike the picture above).
 - Clean the stove out at the end of your stay. Empty hot ashes into the metal bucket provided.
 - It is a good idea to close the chimney at the end of your stay, as this reduces the amount of water that can enter the stove in bad weather.
 - There is a carbon monoxide alarm and a smoke alarm in the hut. If either goes off open the windows and doors and leave the hut immediately. Only go back in once the hut has cleared.
 - There is also a fire extinguisher and a fire blanket at the hut. Make sure you locate these when you arrive, so you know where they are in case you need to use them.
 - Check that the chimney plate is open before lighting the stove (the metal ring at the base of the chimney should be in line with the chimney).
 - There are rotating vents on the front of the stove for adjusting the burn rate. Closing these and half-closing the chimney plate can make the stove more efficient, but if you do this, you **MUST** open the chimney plate before opening the doors to avoid smoke entering the hut.
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When nature calls...

There is no toilet at the hut so please be considerate to others when nature calls.

PLEASE DO NOT POO OR PEE ON OR NEAR THE HUT!

- Bring your own toilet paper, just in case there isn't any in the hut.
- Take the spade provided and walk at least 100m north of the hut, away from the river, or into the woods.
- Bury paper and faeces at least 6 inches underground, and as far away from running water as you can manage. Dig through any snow first.
- DO NOT 'DIRTY' THE SPADE! At no point should poo touch the spade, if it does you're doing it wrong. Make sure the spade is clean before returning it to the hut.

Useful advice (and how to avoid the mice)

- Bring a tea towel for drying dishes, extra long matches, firelighters and toilet paper.
- Store all dishes either upside down or in the plastic boxes provided, make sure the lid is on properly and weighted down. This is to protect from mice.
- Hang all your food in bags on the roof beams (again, mice). Also avoid leaving rubbish bags accessible when you are not in the hut or at night.
- Leave boots in the porch.
- Only leave non-perishable food for others, if you are leaving food behind. Our mice are voracious, so dry pasta is a no no. Make sure any food is not accessible to them!
- Close all plastic boxes properly and weigh the lids down.

Leaving the hut

- Make sure fire is out and clean out the stove.
 - Turn off the gas and disconnect the cylinder.
 - Tidy the hut and sweep the floor.
 - Remove all food and rubbish and take it with you.
 - Replace the shutters to each window and lock in place.
 - Lock up when you leave, replacing all padlocks.
 - Report any damage or problems (or perhaps even kind words) to the hut custodian when you get back home.
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